

# Platen

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In letterpress printing, a **platen** is the perfectly flat steel (or earlier, wooden) plate which is pressed onto the back of paper to cause an impression to be made from the type. Sometimes spelled **platten**. Also a roller used in typewriters and friction-feed printers to hold the paper in position for the typebars or print head.

In office copiers and scanners, the **platen** is a flat glass surface on which operators place papers or books for scanning. The platen is also called the flatbed. Platens are also used in some printers like the Dot-matrix printer

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Category: Tools stubs

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